

[54] **METHOD FOR THE ACID HYDROLYSIS OF ACRYLONITRILE CONTAINING POLYMERS, HYDROGELS AND FIBERS OF PRODUCTS PREPARED BY SAID METHOD**

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[22] Filed: **Mar. 20, 1974**

[21] Appl. No.: **453,080**

Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation of Ser. No. 377,270, July 9, 1973, abandoned.

Foreign Application Priority Data

July 14, 1972 Czechoslovakia 5011-72

[52] U.S. Cl. ... **260/29.6 AN; 260/63 N; 260/85.5 ES; 260/85.5 XA; 260/85.5 HC; 260/88.7 B**

[51] Int. Cl. **C08f 45/24**

[58] Field of Search **260/85.5 ES, 63 N, 85.5 S, 260/88.7 B, 29.6 AN, 85.5 XA, 85.5 HC**

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[57]

ABSTRACT

There is disclosed a method for the acid hydrolysis of acrylonitrile-containing polymers comprising hydrolyzing said polymers in the presence of about 40 to about 80% concentrated nitric acid at a temperature of about 25 to about 60°C, cooling said acid reaction mixture to about -20° to about +30°C for a period of time sufficient to reach the desired degree of hydrolysis and products produced therefrom.

19 Claims, 4 Drawing Figures

